# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CIVIL AVIATION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1334
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2016
Shortage of Pilots
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**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:**

(a) the present strength of Air India pilots in the country;

(b) whether the Government proposes to hire a number of type-rated pilots on a contract basis, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and the time by which the hiring of type-rated pilots is likely to
commence;

(c) the number of pilots who are flying aircraft of the A-320 family as on date;

(d) whether the Government proposes to phase out some old classic A-320 Aircraft from the fleet, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of flights cancelled due to shortage of pilots during the last six months and the other steps taken by the Government to augment the
strength of specialised pilots in Air India to mitigate the shortage?

## Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) There are a total of 1542 pilots in Air India.

(b) Yes, Madam. In view of the fleet augmentation, addition of new sectors and also on account of natural wastage and attrition in the category of Pilots, a recruitment exercise was carried out by Air India in 2015 and a total 78 type rated candidates have been inducted.

(c) As on date, 646 pilots of Air India are flying aircraft of A-320 family.

(d) The number of A-320 aircraft likely to be phased out during the next three years and the current year is as follows:

| Year | Number of Aircraft |
|---|---|
| 2016 | 6 |
| 2017 | 4 |
| 2018 | 3 |
| 2019 | 2 |

(e) The details regarding cancellation of flights due to cabin crew constraints during last 6 months are as follows:

| Period | No. of flights cancelled |
|---|---|
| Aug. 2015 | 01 |
| Sept. 2015 | 69 |
| Oct. 2015 | 18 |
| Nov. 2015 | 11 |
| Dec. 2015 | 04 |
| Jan. 2016 | 04 |
| Total | 107 |

In addition to recruitment exercise cited in reply to para (b) above, another advertisement was issued by Air India on 07-08-2015 for Trainee pilots i.e.Commercial Pilot Licence (CPL) Holders, and recruitment exercise was completed on 17-12-2015 in which 71 candidates have been empanelled. Air India has carried out another recruitment exercise for
filling up of 80 posts of Trainee Pilots from amongst the permanent serving employees of Air India, who are CPL Holders.